

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 8-12, 14, 15, 17-29 and 31-36 are pending in this application, of which claims 1 and 19 have been amended. No new claims have been added.

In the Advisory Action mailed March 29, 2004, the Examiner indicated that the claims had not been interpreted to recite a three-dimensional core, which would distinguish over the cited references. Accordingly, claims 1 and 19 have been so amended.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1-5, 8-12, 14, 15, 17-29 and 31-26, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

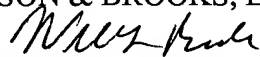
If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for further examination.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **08/701,457**
Preliminary Amendment

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: RCE
Petition for Extension of Time

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